

IN THE CLAIMS:

1.-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) An assembly, comprising a femoral head assembly connectable to a femoral hip stem, the assembly comprising:

a femoral head having a body with a spherical outer surface adapted to articulate within an acetabular component, the body having a threaded bore;

a plurality of spacers of varying thicknesses, at least one of said plurality of spacers adapted to be inserted into the threaded bore;

a first neck having an externally threaded portion and an internal bore, said internal bore having a tapered cylindrical shape, said externally threaded portion being adapted to be threadably engaged with said threaded bore of said body of said femoral head;

wherein the first neck is adapted to extend outwardly from said femoral head in various lengths, wherein each length corresponds to the thickness of said at least one of said plurality of spacers; and

a femoral hip stem, said femoral hip stem comprising a second neck having a tapered outer surface that is adapted to be positioned in said tapered, cylindrical-shaped internal bore in said first neck to thereby form a Morse taper connection.

22. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 21, wherein said thicknesses of said plurality of spacers are provided in ~~provided in~~ increments of 1 mm.

23. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 21 wherein said plurality of spacers have at least three different thicknesses.

24. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 21 wherein multiple spacers are inserted into said threaded bore of said body of said femoral head to vary an offset of said first neck from said femoral head.

25.-29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently Amended) An assembly, comprising:

a femoral head having a body with an outer surface adapted to articulate with an acetabular component, said femoral head comprising an internally threaded bore; a first neck having a first externally threaded end adapted to be threadingly connected to the internal threaded bore of said femoral head and a second end comprising a tapered, cylindrical-shaped internal bore;

a femoral hip stem, said femoral hip stem comprising a second neck having a tapered outer surface that is adapted to be positioned in said tapered, cylindrical-shaped internal bore in said first neck to thereby form a Morse taper connection; and

at least one spacer adapted to be positioned within said internally threaded bore of said femoral head between said first end of said first neck and said femoral head, wherein said at least one spacer engages ~~at least one of~~ said first end of said first neck and a bottom surface of said internally threaded bore of said femoral head

when said first neck is threadingly coupled and seated in said internally threaded bore of said femoral head, said first neck extending outwardly from said femoral head by a length that corresponds to a thickness of said at least one spacer.

31. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 30, wherein said at least one spacer comprises a plurality of spacers and wherein one of said plurality of spacers engages said first end of said first neck and another of said plurality of spacers engages said bottom surface of said internally threaded bore, and wherein said first neck extends outwardly from said femoral head by a length that corresponds to a combined thickness of said plurality of spacers.

32. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 30, wherein said at least one spacer adjusts a femoral offset of said femoral head with respect to said femoral hip stem.

33. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 30, wherein at least one spacer has a thickness selected from the group consisting of 1 mm, 2 mm, 3 mm, and 4 mm.

34. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 30, wherein said at least one spacer comprises four spacers with at least three different thicknesses.

35. (Canceled)